

After Salvation



- Words to Find:**
- | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| pray | tithe | devotions |
| serve | witness | worship |
| church | bible | thankful |
| baptism | minister | read |
| | obey | |

Answers can be found at: <http://www.openthoumineeyes.com/Puzzle/After.htm>

The death of Christ did not terminate but did germinate His work.

What Really Counts!

Author Unknown

Don't tell me what you'll do, When you have time to spare. Tell me what you did today To ease a load of care.	in from sea; Tell me what you gave today — A fettered soul to free.
Don't tell me what you will give When your ship comes	Don't tell me the dreams you have Of conquest still afar; Don't say what you hope to be, But show me what you are.

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One More Chance

By Bill Brinkworth

“Oh, I’ve heard that before,” replied Gail.

I had just spent forty-five minutes telling her how to be saved; how she must know that she is a sinner; how she needs to believe that Jesus paid the price for her sins on the cross at Calvary; and that she needs to ask Him to save her from a deserved Hell. “You did? When was that?”

“Well let’s see. I’m 38 years old now, so I was about 30 when someone else told me I must ask Jesus to save me. But there just wasn’t time then, with raising the family and all. Before that when I was twenty-five, I heard on a radio how I needed to trust the Lord for my salvation. I felt that I really needed to ask Him then, but I guess I just put it off.

Oh, yes, when I was about twelve someone took me to Sunday school. I remember the teacher showed me how I could be saved. All the other kids got saved, but, well, I guess I felt I could do it some other time.”

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It is Well With My Soul

By Bill Brinkworth

Many of the hymns sung in church have an interesting story

behind them. “It Is Well With My Soul” is one of those songs. When it is sung, you quickly realize that the feelings expressed in its verses were from a man qualified by experience to write it.

Horatio Spafford was the writer of the song in 1873. He was a well-known Christian lawyer in Chicago. He grew spiritually stronger under D. L. Moody’s ministry. Although he had much property in the fast growing town, he lost almost everything in the Great Chicago fire. Little was left, but ashes.

He kept busy helping others that had also lost everything.

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Another Chance

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“Well, Gail, you’ve heard the message before. God loves you so much that he hasn’t given up on you. He keeps trying. How about, right now, asking the Lord to save you?” I pleaded.

“I, I ... just can’t. Maybe some other time. I’m just not ready yet!” she again evaded the invitation.

I learned quite a bit about how God works in people’s lives that night. I learned that He keeps trying, repeatedly. Most people have heard the Gospel message many times, and each time they tell God “no” by not obeying His call, their heart gets harder and colder to the things of God.

Probably, when Gail first heard the Good News, she was tempted to make the most important decision of her life. For whatever reason, she said “no”. Her heart stiffened against the calling of the Holy Spirit in her life. It got even harder the second time. By the time she heard the message the third time, her heart was rock hard, and by all appearances, it looked like it would never be softened again. She said “no” to God, just one too many times.

Since that night, I have learned that most of the people I have talked to about the Lord, have also heard it before. Maybe they heard it from their grandmother, parent, friend, Sunday school teacher, or

even read it from a Bible tract left in a public bathroom. Many that have put their salvation off before will still make excuses to put it off again.

I marvel at the way God keeps patiently trying and how He never quits on us, if there is any interest on our part. What matchless love and compassion God has for us. How sad it is to hear one, who has heard the story before, say “no”, one more time.

One time, it will be their last opportunity. They will not have that “next chance”. Many hope that they can be saved on their deathbed. It has happened. However, there is no guarantee that they will have that last opportunity. Even, if they have that last chance, there is no telling that their hardened heart may say “some other time”, for their very last time.

It Is Well With My Soul

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Much of his time was spent in Moody’s North Side Tabernacle and Horatio’s legal practice.

Two years after the fire, Chicago was still not built back. Horatio decided to move to England where his children could go to school.

Just before it was time to sail, a last minute business problem kept him from going. He sent his family ahead and planned to fol-

The road to hell is easy to travel!

low them shortly.

The Spaffords arrived in New York safely where they boarded



the *Villa de Havre* that would sail them to England. Half way across the Atlantic Ocean, there was a collision with an English ship. The *Villa de Havre* sank with

most of its passengers. Mrs. Spafford was found barely conscious hanging onto a part of the wreck. The four daughters were lost at the bottom of the ocean.

The rescuers took the survivors back to England. While on board, Mrs. Spafford was able to get a message sent to her husband. “Saved ... alone,” it read.

What a message it was for Mr. Spafford to read. The tragedy of the fire was nothing compared to the loss of his children. Houses, buildings, and money could be replaced, but not lives!

Although his heart was broken, God gave him a tremendous peace; the same peace that He will give those today that seek it. Instead of cursing God and shaking his fist in the Almighty’s face, he trusted that God knew what He was doing. As God gave him peace through this despairing time, he was able to pen the words of this song that would bless and

encourage the hearts of many:

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Thou Satan should buffet tho’ trials should come. Let this blest assurance control. That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate and hath shed, His own blood for my soul.

My sin – O the bliss of this glorious tho’t – My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll: The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, “Even so”, It is well with my soul.

What a victory God can give us if, we let him. Even through hard times God helped Horatio Spafford have victory. Satan would have you turn those hard times into angry, God-hating times. Hard times are not the times to fight against God. They are the times to draw nearer to Him. Anyone can have the same peace Horatio had when they wholly rely on God.

Those who always pray are necessary to those who never pray. — V. Hugo

Salvation is free to you because someone else paid for it..